

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is provided a method of supporting small group multicast in mobile IP in which an implicit multicast packet received by a home agent is shifted to an explicit multicast packet including the IP address of a mobile node registered as a multicast receiving party to be transmitted to a care-of address, explicit multicast routing is performed based on the current care-of address of the mobile node described in the explicit multicast packet in case where the home agent receives this explicit multicast packet, and the mobile node uses the IP address of the home agent as the originating party's address when it sends the explicit multicast packet via a multicast router of a visited network. Further, the mobile node uses a co-located care-of address as the originating party's address in case where it transmits the explicit multicast packet via the home agent, and the mobile node uses basic multicast provided by mobile IP when the loss in processes of home agents or foreign agents is judged to be more severe than the network band width loss.

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